

Leseberg Compiled Genealogy

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16 September 2019

Generation 1

1. HERMANN PHILIP¹ LESEBERG was born in Aerzen, Hameln-Pyrmont, Lower Saxony, Germany on 4 June 1844 to HEINRICH ERNST LUDWIG LESEBERG (1796–1864) and SOPHIE DOROTHEE CHARLOTTE CORDES (1798–?).¹

He immigrated to America, departing from Bremen, Germany and arrived in New York on 16 July 1866, aboard the “America.”² He was twenty-two years old. He first worked as a cabinetmaker on his own and lived in Chicago,³ but in about 1870 went into business with his brother-in-law, HENRY WALTEMATE, who was a tinsmith.⁴ Henry married Hermann’s sister, WILHELMINE, in Aerzen.⁵

Hermann married at St. John’s church in Addison, DuPage County, Illinois **DORETTE MARIE BENECKE** on 6 August 1871.⁶ Dorette was born in Niederstöcken, Niedersachsen, Germany on 4 July 1848⁷ to GEORGE AND ELENORE (NIEMEIER) BENECKE. She immigrated to America with her mother and five siblings in 1868.⁸

After their marriage, it is likely the couple lived in Chicago where Hermann continued his work as a cabinetmaker. Just months later, however, beginning on October 8, the city of Chicago was

¹ Church records of the Evangelical Church communities and Aerzen Ösdorf / Pyrmont, Stadtkirche Association Hannover, microfilmed Church records of ev. luth. Lutheran Church in Lower Saxony by Mr. Rainer Bien in Beckedorf, Compilation: 2015 by Christel Thielke.

² New York Passenger Lists, 1820-1957, Passenger Lists of Vessels Arriving at New York, *America*, leaving Bremen, Germany, arriving New York on 16 July 1866, Manifest #, line 21, Herman Leseberg, image on Ancestry.com.

³ City Directories for Chicago, 1869, Illinois, Edward and Co., Leseberg, Hermann, p 529, image on Fold3.com

⁴ City Directories for Chicago, Illinois, Richard Edwards, 1870, Woltemate & Leseberg, p. 894, 4, image on Fold3.com.

⁵ Church records of the Evangelical Church communities and Aerzen Ösdorf / Pyrmont, Stadtkirche Association Hannover, microfilmed Church records of ev. luth. Lutheran Church in Lower Saxony by Mr. Rainer Bien in Beckedorf, Compilation: 2015 by Christel Thielke, rows 122-123. Copy in possession of the author.

⁶ “Herman P. Leseberg Retired Merchant Taken by Death”, *The Monee Review*, 8 May 1924, p. 1, col 2, original clipping in possession of the author.

⁷ Montgomery, Frank William, PHD, “*The Beneke and Heers Family from Hanover*,” (Barberton, Ohio, 1969), scanned copy, obtained from Gregg Ramirez, p. 14.

⁸ U.S. and Canada, Passenger and Immigration Lists Index, 1500s-1900s, German Immigrants: Lists of Passengers Bound from Bremen to New York, 1868-1971, with Places of Origin, Vol. 4, Baltimore; Genealogical Publishing Co., 1993. 198p., database entry, Ancestry.com.

engulfed in flames in what would later be called the Great Chicago Fire. Hermann and Dorette soon moved out of the city, traveling south along the Illinois Central railroad tracks to the small farming town of Monee, in Will County. Hermann Leseberg is credited with being among the first, if not the first undertaker in Monee.⁹

In 1880, Herrmann Leseberg resided in Monee, Will County, Illinois. He was a thirty-six-year-old furniture dealer, born in Hannover, Germany (father and mother also born in Hannover, Germany). Living with him was his wife, Doretta, age thirty-two, kept house, born in Hannover, Germany (parents born in Hannover, Germany); and children, all born in Illinois: Louise, age seven, William, age three, Meta, age two, and Emma, age one.¹⁰

In 1900, Herman P. Leseberg resided in Monee, Will County, Illinois. He was fifty-five-years old and a furniture merchant, born in Germany in June 1844 (parents born in Germany) and had been married twenty-nine years. He immigrated to the United States in 1866 and was a naturalized citizen. He owned his own without mortgage. Living with him was his wife, Dora [sic], age fifty-one, born July 1848 in Germany. She immigrated in 1868. It listed she was the mother of nine children, with seven living. Also living there were their children, Francelia, born in Illinois in May 1885, single and at school; and Herbert, born in Illinois in June 1893.¹¹

In March 1906, Hermann began taking steps toward retirement. He placed an advertisement in the newspaper to sell his furniture and undertaking business. There was no question as to why he was selling, as the ad read, "...reason for selling, old age."¹²

In 1910, Herman Leseberg, age sixty-four, lived in Monee, Will County Illinois and had been married thirty-eight years. He was born in Germany (parents were born in Germany). He immigrated to the United States in 1866 and was a naturalized citizen. He spoke English. He rented the home he was living in. Also living with him was his wife Dorothee [sic], age sixty-one. She reported having nine children, with seven children living. She was born in Germany (parents born in Germany). She immigrated to the United States in 1868. Living next door to the couple was their daughter, Meta, age thirty-two, her husband, Reinhardt Freese, age thirty-six, and their three daughters, Althea, age twelve, Dorthy [sic], age eight and Helen, age four.¹³

In 1920, Herman P. Leseberg, age seventy-five, lived in Monee, Will County, Illinois in a house he owned free and clear. He immigrated to the United States in 1866 and became a naturalized citizen in 1871. He was born in Germany and spoke German (parents born in Germany). Living with him was his wife, Doretta, age seventy-one. She was born in Germany and immigrated to

⁹ Milne, Muriel Mueller, *Our Roots are Deep: A History of Monee, Illinois* (1973), p. 155.

¹⁰ 1880 U.S. census, Illinois, Will Co., Monee, e.d. 207, p. 8, household of Herrmann Leseberg, image on Ancestry.com.

¹¹ 1900 U.S. census, Illinois, Will County, Monee, e.d. 139, sheet 12B, household of Herman P. Leseberg, image on Ancestry.com.

¹² "For Sale – Furniture and Undertaking Business," *The Chicago Tribune*, Chicago, Ill., 27 March 1905, p. 61, col. 4, Newspapers.com.

¹³ 1910 U.S. census, Illinois, Will County, Monee, e.d. 188, p. 1B, household of Herman Leseberg, image on Ancestry.com.

the United States in 1868 and became a naturalized citizen in 1871 (parents born in Germany). They could both read and write.¹⁴

On 6-7 August 1921, a two-day picnic was held for Hermann and Dorette, who celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. A large party was held in their honor and was attended by their family and many members of the community. The Rev. A.B. Gaebe repeated the wedding ceremony and made "...an impressive address to the assembled guests and presented Mr. and Mrs. Leseberg with a gift."¹⁵

Hermann died in Monee¹⁶ on 7 May 1924 and was buried in St. Paul's Cemetery in Monee 10 May 1924.¹⁷

In 1930, Dortha [*sic*] Leseberg, age eighty-one lived in Monee, Will County, Illinois in a house she owned and was valued at \$5,000. She was born in Germany and spoke German (parents born in Germany). She was listed as married and had been married for twenty-six years. She could read and write. She immigrated in 1869 and was a naturalized citizen. Her daughter, Louise, age fifty-six, single and born in Illinois. She could read and write.¹⁸

Dorette died in Monee on 20 March 1934, age eighty-five.¹⁹ She was buried in St. Paul's Cemetery, Monee, on 23 March 1934.²⁰

Children of Hermann and Doretta (Benecke) Leseberg (nine children, with seven living in 1910)

2. i. Emma Leseberg, b. 25 April 1872, Chicago, Cook Co., Ill., d. 25 September 1872, Chicago, Cook Co., Ill.²¹
3. ii. Louise Maria Leseberg, b. 25 September 1873, Chicago, Cook Co., Ill., d. 18 January 1966, Chicago Heights, Cook Co., Ill.²²

¹⁴ 1920 U.S. census, Illinois, Will County, Monee, e.d. 196, p. 1B, household of Herman P. Leseberg, image on Ancestry.com.

¹⁵ "Celebrate Golden Wedding," clipping unidentified and dated by hand "Aug 6 1921", found in the scrapbook of Althea (Freese) Diercks, possessed by the author.

¹⁶ Illinois, Deaths and Stillbirths Index, 1916-1947, database entry for Herman Phillip Leseberg, born 4 June 1844, died 7 May 1924, Ancestry.com

¹⁷ FindAGrave.com, Hermann P. Leseberg, Will Co., Ill., Saint Paul Evangelical Reformed Church Cemetery, Memorial #15300253.

¹⁸ 1930 U.S. census, Illinois, Will County, Monee, e.d. 99-72, p. 1A, household of Dortha Leseberg, image on Ancestry.com.

¹⁹ Illinois, Deaths and Stillbirths Index, 1916-1947, database entry for Dorette Leseberg, born abt 1849, died 20 March 1934, Ancestry.com.

²⁰ FindAGrave.com, Dorette Marie Leseberg, Will Co., Ill., Saint Paul Evangelical Reformed Church Cemetery, Memorial #15300263.

²¹ Montgomery, Frank William, PHD, "*The Beneke and Heers Family from Hanover*," (Barberton, Ohio, 1969), scanned copy, obtained from Gregg Ramirez, family group sheet B3.

²² FindAGrave.com, Louise Maria Leseberg, Will Co., Ill., Saint Paul Evangelical Reformed Church Cemetery, Memorial #15300268.

4. iii. William Louis Leseberg, b. 28 June 1875, Chicago, Cook Co., Ill., d. 9 April 1950, San Francisco, San Francisco, Calif.²³; m. (1) Louise Lieber,²⁴ (2) Charlotte Conrardt.²⁵
5. iv. Meta Maria Leseberg, b. 5 May 1877, Monee, Will Co., Ill., d. 13 November 1971, Monee, Will Co., Ill.²⁶; m. Reinhardt Freese.²⁷
6. v. Emma Johanna Leseberg, b. 20 May 1879, Monee, Will Co., Ill., d. 8 June 1967, Peotone, Will Co., Ill.²⁸; m. Fred Voigt.²⁹
7. vi. Otto Leseberg, b. 24 January 1881, Monee, Will Co., Ill. d. 8 September 1881, Monee, Will Co., Ill.³⁰
8. vii. Julia Sophie Leseberg, b. 12 August 1882, Monee, Will Co., Ill. d. 12 August 1955, Chicago, Cook Co., Ill.³¹; m. (1) Allen Tinney,³² (2) Roland Moore.
9. viii. Francelia "Cil" Charlotte Leseberg, b. 21 March 1885, Monee, Will Co., Ill. d. 21 March 1939, Cocoa, Brevard Co., Fla.³³; m. (1) William Will,³⁴ (2) Thomas Pappas.³⁵
- + 10. ix. Herbert² "Herbie" Carl Leseberg, b. 18 June 1893, Monee, Will Co., Ill. d. 25 January 1966, Oak Forest, Cook Co., Ill.; m. Lydia Friedrichs.

Generation 2

10. **HERBERT CARL² LESEBERG** (HERMANN PHILIP¹) was born in Monee, Will County, Illinois on 18 June 1893³⁶ to Hermann Leseberg and Dorette Benecke. He married in San Francisco,

²³ California Death Index, 1940-1997, database entry for William L. Leseberg, born 28 June 1875, died 9 April 1950, image on Ancestry.com.

²⁴ Cook County, Illinois, Marriages Index, 1871-1920, database entry for William F. Leseberg and Louise Leber, Ancestry.com.

²⁵ "Teacher Marries," *San Anselmo Herald*, 20 July 1826, p. 3, col. 2, Newspapers.com.

²⁶ Social Security Death Index, database entry for Meta Freese, ssn 320-44-0084, born 5 May 1877, died November 1971, Ancestry.com.

²⁷ Illinois, Marriage Index, 1860-1920, database entry for Meta M S Leseberg and Reinhardt M Freese, accessed 30 August 2019, Ancestry.com.

²⁸ Social Security Death Index, database entry for Emma Voight, ssn x38-22-0684, born 20 May 1879, died June 1967, Ancestry.com.

²⁹ Indiana, Marriages, 1810-2001, database entry for Emma H Leseberg and Fred Voigt, Ancestry.com.

³⁰ St. Paul's United Church of Christ, Monee, Will Co., Ill., Church Registers, Book One, p. 96, digital images on CD of which author owns a copy, Disc 4, image "Pg96".

³¹ Cook County, Illinois Death Index, 1908-1998, database entry for Julie Moore, died 12 August 1955, Ancestry.com.

³² Illinois Marriage License, 1902, Marriage of Allen Tinney and Julia Leseberg, 14 June 1902, #346938, image on Ancestry.com.

³³ Florida State Board of Health, Bureau of Vital Statistics, Death certificate of Francilia Pappas, 21 March 1939, #4225, Ancestry.com.

³⁴ Illinois Marriage License, 1903, Marriage of William Will and Francilia Leseberg, 18 October 1903, #375713, Ancestry.com.

³⁵ Illinois Marriage License, 1914, Marriage of Thom Pappandreno and Francelia Leseberg Will, 8 June 1914, #665825, image on Ancestry.com.

³⁶ U.S. World War I Draft Registration Cards, 1917-1918, Illinois, Chicago City, 84, Draft card L., Herbert Carl Otto Lewis Leseberg, image on Ancestry.com.

California, on 9 December 1915 **LYDIA MARIA FRIEDRICHS**. Lydia was born in Green Garden, Will County, Illinois on 30 September 1896 to George C. and Marie (Hahn) Friederichs.³⁷

Children of Hebert and Lydia (Friedrichs) Leseberg:

11. i. LUCILLE DORETTE LESEBERG, b. 29 October 1916, Chicago, Cook Co., Ill., d. 31 December 1992, Lilburn, Gwinnett County, Ga.,³⁸ m. JOHN BERNHARDT CONNORS.³⁹
12. ii. MURIEL ELIZABETH LESEBERG, b. 8 April 1920, Chicago, Cook Co., Ill., d. 29 March 2010, Gold Canyon, Pinal Co., Ariz.,⁴⁰ m. RAYMOND WALTER BONOW.⁴¹

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³⁷ Social Security Death Index, database entry for Lydia Leseberg, ssn 319-32-2573, born 30 September 1896, died Sep 1992, Ancestry.com.

³⁸ U.S. Social Security Applications and Claims Index, 1936-2007, database entry for Lucille Dorette Leseberg, born 29 October 1916, died 31 December 1992, Ancestry.com.

³⁹ Indiana Marriages, 1810-2001, database entry for Lucille Leseberg and John B. Connors, 26 October 1940, Ancestry.com.

⁴⁰ United States Obituary Collection, database entry for Muriel Elizabeth Bonow, born 8 April 1920, died 29 March 2010, Ancestry.com.

⁴¹ Montgomery, Frank William, PHD, "*The Beneke and Heers Family from Hanover*," (Barberton, Ohio, 1969), scanned copy, obtained from Gregg Ramirez, family group sheet B-392.